

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of indicating connectivity comprising:
 - establishing a communication link between a modem of a user and a network aggregation point;
 - authorizing access by the modem to an information service;
 - visually indicating an existence of the communication link at a first location of the modem; and
 - visually indicating an availability of the information service at a second location of the modem.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - utilizing a first light emitting diode to indicate the existence of the communication link; and
 - utilizing a second light emitting diode to indicate the availability of the information service.
3. The method of claim 1, executing a Point to Point Protocol over Ethernet client in connection with establishing the communication link.
4. The method of claim 1, communicating a user credential to an authentication server in connection with authorizing access to the information service.
5. The method of claim 1, further comprising communicating information from the information service to the modem via the network aggregation point.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a user interface having visual display capabilities.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the user interface comprises the first location and the second location.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising distributing the modem to the user.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises an xDSL modem.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a cable modem.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a cable modem termination system.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a digital subscriber line access multiplexer.
13. The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling an indication of the existence of the communication link in response to recognizing a loss of the communication link.

14. A connectivity indication system, comprising:
 - a user interface coupled to a housing component, the user interface comprising a visual display portion;
 - the housing component at least partially defining an enclosure;
 - a broadband modem module secured within the enclosure;
 - a link detection mechanism communicatively coupled to the broadband modem module and operable to output a link signal in response to a determination that a communication link exists between the broadband modem module and a network aggregation point;
 - a data detection mechanism operable to output an access signal in response to a recognition that the broadband modem module enjoys access to a remote information service;
 - a first indicator operable to be displayed within the user interface in response to the link signal; and
 - a second indicator operable to be displayed within the user interface in response to the access signal.
15. The system of claim 14, wherein the user interface comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes within the visual display portion, further wherein the first indicator comprises a lighted one of the plurality of light emitting diodes and the second indicator comprises a different lighted one of the plurality of light emitting diodes.
16. The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem module comprises a cable modem.
17. The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem module comprises an xDSL modem.
18. The system of claim 14, further comprising a PPPoE client executing on a processor secured within the enclosure.

19. A method of generating connectivity awareness comprising:
providing a subscriber with a broadband modem comprising at least a first
indicator operable to display a connectivity status indicating whether a connection exists
between the broadband modem and a network aggregation node and a second indicator
operable to display a data status indicating an availability of access to a remote
information service node; and
providing a broadband data service to the subscriber.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising:
receiving a trouble shooting request from the subscriber, the trouble shooting
request relating to the broadband service; and
prompting the user to observe the first and second indicator.

21. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
receiving a communication indicating that the first indicator displays a positive
connectivity status and the second indicator displays a negative data status; and
determining an appropriate suggestion responsive to the trouble shooting request.